



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

PSC TO HOLD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS IN JOPLIN AND REEDS SPRING

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold local public hearings in **Joplin** and **Reeds Spring** in an electric rate case filed by The Empire District Electric Company. Local public hearings give customers an opportunity to comment on the rate case as well as bring any service related problems to the Commission's attention.

The local public hearing schedule appears below:

June 26, 2006

Joplin

Missouri Southern State University
Webster Hall
3950 E. Newman Road
5:30 p.m.*

June 27, 2006

Joplin

Missouri Southern State University
Webster Hall
3950 E. Newman Road
11:30 a.m.*

* PSC Staff informal question and answer session begins. On June 26, the local public hearing will go from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., or until all persons who wish to testify have done so, whichever is sooner. On June 27, the local public hearing will go from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m., or until all persons who wish to testify have done so, whichever is sooner.

June 27, 2006

Reeds Spring

Tri-Lakes TCRC
University of Missouri Extension at Reeds Spring High School
ITV Room
20277 State Highway 413
5:30 p.m.**

** PSC Staff informal question and answer session begins. The local public hearing will go from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., or until all persons who wish to testify have done so, whichever is sooner.

The local public hearings will be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodations to participate in the hearings should call the Public Service Commission's hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearings.

On February 1, 2006, The Empire District Electric Company filed an electric rate case with the Public Service Commission. Empire is seeking to increase annual electric revenues by approximately \$29.5 million (9.63%). For the average residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, the proposed increase would be approximately \$11.11 a month.

The Empire District Electric Company serves approximately 141,500 electric customers in 16 southwest Missouri counties (Barry, Barton, Cedar, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Hickory, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, Polk, St. Clair, Stone and Taney).